



NIP-198

#9/110
3/25/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

S. KANNO et al

Serial No. 09/651,783

Group Art Unit: 1754

Filed: August 30, 2000

Examiner: N. Nguyen

For: APPARATUS FOR TREATING PERFLUOROCOMPOUND GAS

**REQUEST FOR NEW OFFICE ACTION AND
RESET OF STATUTORY RESPONSE PERIOD**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 20, 2003

Sir:

In a telephone conversation with Examiner Nguyen on March 18, 2003, the Applicants' representative learned that an Final Rejection Office Action was mailed February 27, 2003 in the above-identified application. The Applicants' representative obtained a fax copy of the Office Action mailed February 27, 2003 from the Examiner on March 19, 2003.

The Applicants' representative hereby states that the Office Action was never received and a search of the file jacket and docket records of the Applicants' representative indicate that the Office Action was not received. Enclosed is a copy of the docket record for the above-identified application where the non-received Office Action would have been entered had it been received and docketed.

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The copy of the docket record indicates that a response to an Office Action was due on December 4, 2002. The copy of the docket record also shows that the Reply to the Office Action was filed on December 4, 2002. No further entries have been made in the docket as would have occurred in the ordinary course of business if the Office Action had actually been received.

Also enclosed is a copy of the undersigned firm's Mail Log from February 27, 2003 to March 20, 2003. Under the Mail Log heading "Delivery Type", those documents classified as "PTO" correspond to documents received by mail from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The headings "FED EX", "AIR MAIL", "PRIORITY MAIL" and "DHL" correspond to mail from other sources. This Mail Log reveals that nothing was received by mail having the Docket No. "NIP-198", corresponding to application Serial No. 09/651,783.

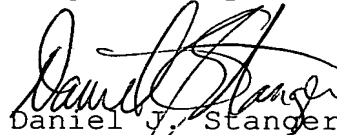
It is noted that the Office Action bears the incorrect former mailing address of the Applicants' representative. A Change of Correspondence Address was filed on December 4, 2002 and again on March 19, 2003 to update the records of the USPTO.

Accordingly, having received no forwarded Office Action or telephone indication from the USPTO, it appears that the

Office Action was lost in the mail. The Applicants, therefore, request that the complete Office Action, including any cited references, be remailed with a reset statutory period of response to coincide with the new mailing date of the Office Action.

Although no fee is believed to be necessary with this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1417 for any fees that are deemed necessary.

Respectfully submitted,



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